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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :  
AELAN MOSDEN, ET AL. : EXAMINER: BARRECA, N.  
SERIAL NO: 10/801,571 :  
FILED: MARCH 17, 2004 : GROUP ART UNIT: 1756  
FOR: METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR :  
TREATING A HARD MASK TO  
IMPROVE ETCH CHARACTERISTICS

AMENDMENT

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

Responsive to the Office Action dated March 10, 2006, please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 6 of this paper.

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